



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

GROVER G. NORQUIST

PRESIDENT

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
236 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Suite 110
Washington, DC 20002

June 16, 2005

Re: WC Docket No. 05-75; Verizon Communications, Inc. and MCI, Inc. Applications for Approval of Transfer of Control

Dear Secretary Dortch:

As you may be aware, Americans for Tax Reform recently submitted comments in strong support of the proposed merger of SBC Communications, Inc. and AT&T Corp. The same principles apply to the proposed Verizon-MCI merger, and therefore Americans for Tax Reform believes this merger also should move forward without government interference.

As we noted previously, the telecommunications and voice services landscape has radically changed since 1984, when the AT&T-Bell phone monopoly was disbanded. Consumers have limitless choices between providers and technologies. While telephone customers once had to hurry through long distance calls, competition among providers old and new have brought about cheaper per-minute, and in many cases, unlimited long distance. New technologies including Voiceover Internet Protocol (VoIP), Wi-Fi, Internet and cellular services offer consumers additional features in options in communications, all at lower prices. It is difficult to even imagine the options consumers will have a decade from now. Therefore, concerns that the proposed Verizon-MCI merger will represent a threat to competition are unfounded.

When the federal government has stepped back and allowed the free market to do its job, consumers have benefited with more choices and lower prices. The FCC should continue this trend by allowing the Verizon-MCI merger to proceed without government interference.

Respectfully submitted,

Grover Norquist